Thanks to Sustaining Member

Owen Coll

Welcome to New Members

Mike Cornwall
Joan & Gene Dieden
Jared & Shannon Woodford

Special Thanks to Mr. Lee and Westwood Liquors at Western & Eastwood for continuous and generous support of GRO

October 2015

Vol. 34 No. 4

TIME TO RENEW!

Once again it's time to renew your membership!

However, GRO has changed the way memberships are calculated: Effective immediately GRO has eliminated the October 1 – September 30 ONLY membership period. Memberships will now be valid for one year from the application date.
If you've never joined, please consider joining at the individual level. Your membership fee funds the GRO winter pot luck dinner, the summer block party, and the printing costs associated with the monthly newsletters, as well as keeping those corner gardens beautiful. See back page for details.

GRO/RGHA FOOD DRIVE COMING UP

The next food drive will be held the weekend of October 16-18. Donations benefit the Common Pantry

The Common Pantry is Chicago's oldest operating food pantry, The pantry serves the Lincoln Square community and provides food and personal items to more than 1100 individuals every month.

Drop-off points are 4738 North Artesian, 2527 West Eastwood, 2612 Weat Eastwood.

Share the bounty - help your neighbor!

COMING UP AT THE OCTOBER MEETING

Officer elections will be held at the October 6 meeting.

Canidates are:
President; Tom Kosinski
1st Vice President, Shonagh Merits
2nd Vice President, Joetta King
Secretary, Bea Tersch
Treasurer, Lucinda Dieker

You must be a member to vote for candidates.

In addition, a representative from the Cook County Assessor's Office will be at the meeting to discuss property taxes and what, if anything, can alleviate the impact of your property tax adjustment,

Summer Block Party
Everything a Block Party Should Be

The Annual GRO Summer Block party,held on Saturday, August 22, was one of the most well attended we have had in years, due in no small part to the beautiful weather that we had.

On a scale of one to ten, this year's annual GRO neighborhood party was an 11: The food was good, the band was great, the pinata was broken, the entertainment was entertaining. One new activity – the children's entertainment - got rave reviews, and will most likely become a fixture at the annual party.

Thanks to all the generous supporters who donated raffle prizes, food, drink, etc: The Red Lion, Beans & Bagels, Chubby Weiner, Baker Miller, HarvestTime, All Star Carpet, Jeff Fritz, Anthony & Taso Fourkas, Patti Huetteman, Swedish Covenant Hospital, Rockwell's Grill, DeVrim Cleaners, and Alderman Pat O'Connor's office.

Planning the affair this year were Bill & Joetta King and Josh Thalheimer. They, along with the community volunteers did a masterful job! And last, but certainly not least, we'd like to thank Grillmaster Gus Chavez who just keeps getting better and better!

MEET YOUR GRO CORNER GARDENERS

GRO has supported and coordinated the cultivation of our neighborhood"s corner gardens for many years. Periodically we like to give our appreciation and thanks to these volunteers, and introduce you to some of them. This month, meet Jessica Sylvester.

A resident of the 4700 block of Talman,she is now in her second year of tending to the northeast corner of Leland and Talman .She acknowledges that it can on occasion be frustrating:"The first time I planted at my corner, the very next day someone dug up and stole three plants.But after that it got better," Why does she choose to freely give her time and effort to the corner gardens? "I wanted to do my share to invest in this neighborhood. Besides,its fun to teach my daughters how to help things grow."

Thank you, Jessica.

Abbey Botkin

GRONews is published by the Greater Rockwell Organization (GRO), a community group dedicated to making our neighborhood a safe and pleasant place in which to live. Tenants, homeowners, landlords, and business owners are welcome to join us in improving our community.

Officers

President@GreaterRockwell.org

Tom Kosinski
VP@GreaterRockwell.org
773-463-7608
Shonagh Merits
2VP@GreaterRockwell.org
312-208-3130
Bea Tersch
Secretary@GreaterRockwell.org
773-561-0794
Lucinda Dieker
Treasurer@GreaterRockwell.org
312-804-4042

GRO Board/Committee Chairs
Membership: Shonagh Merits (312-208-3130); Newsletter: Sara Spitz (773-275-7786); Public Safety: Maria Bappert (773-728-8127); Beautification: Bea Tersch (773-561-0794) (clean up and graffiti); Shonagh Merits (corner gardens) (312-208-3130) Urban Development: Abbey Botkin (773-989-6861) Special Events: Bill King/Josh Thalheimer (312-399-4751)

Newsletter drop points
Beans & Bagels, Rockwell & Leland
Carol's Hair Care, 2556 W. Lawrence
Brown Line Station at Rockwell

Address correspondence to:
newsletter@greaterrockwell.org or
GRONews, P.O. Box 25561
Chicago IL 60625-0561

Newsletter staff
Production: Sara Spitz, Leigh Arber
Distribution Manager: Bea Tersch
Distributors: Maria Bappert, Allie Botkin, Michael Buckwalter, Mark Dawson, the Donnelly boys, Holly Gerberding, Michael Goldstein, Bill King, Tom Kosinski, Nancy Kramer, Karen Peterson, Nina Sandlin, Eric Sinclair, Graham Van Swearingen, Neenah Vittum, the Yoshida family

GRO logo created by Randy Sweitzer

Printing by Printed Impressions
4432 N. Kedzie, Chicago IL 60625
773-604-8585

Webmaster: Tom Kosinski

www.greaterrrockwell.org

A Corner Garden Corner

October gave a party, the leaves by hundreds came.--
George Cooper

Planting bulbs is probably the number one garden activity that takes place in the fall, but there are a number of other gardening and fall-related activities to do

• Get ready for frost, it usually occurs around October 15
• Transplant perennials now, to allow good root development before cold weather sets in. Cut them back by half and move them to a prepared spot. Keep them watered until the plant is established.
• Seed bare spots in the lawn from late August to mid-September to allow the new growth to have enough time to germinate, grow and harden off before cold temperatures arrive. Ideally dig the soil 6 to 8 inches deep, spread grass seed, and tamp down. Keep the soil moist until germination. Cover with weed-free straw to conserve moisture.
• Plant trees and shrubs now as this will allow the plants to become established before winter sets in. Water every 7 to 10 days during dry weather until the ground freezes
• Remove dead plants from the vegetable garden after frost. Leaving dead plants in the garden will provide a home for overwintering insects. Spread a 2- to 3 inch-layer of organic matter over the garden and dig in.

These tips are courtesy of University of Illinois horticulture educator Ron Wolford.For more gardening information, visit: http://web.extension.illinois.edu/state/programarea.cf

Shonagh Merits

Attention:
A GRO newsletter distributor is needed for the 4700 block of Washtenaw.
Interested?
Contact Bea Tersch (773-561-0794) for information.

Ten Reasons to Join and Support GRO

When joining or renewing your membership, keep in mind what GRO supports:

• Coordinating clean up and beautification of the neighborhood
• Providing support to independent local businesses
• Providing neighborhood communications and forum
• Providing awareness of and connections to other local organizations
• Supporting local parks and greenspace
• Supporting local schools
• Organizing social events/coordinating the annual neighborhood garage sales
• Providing a voice in local development
• Promoting community safety
• Keeping on top of issues that can affect property/ property values

We can do even more with your help! Please join us — by becoming a member or renewing your membership. And join us at a meeting the first Tuesday of every month!

Your Community — Get Involved!

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Make the right call!

"When there's URGENCY but no EMERGENCY, call 311."

Call 911 in cases of police, medical or fire emergencies.

Call 311 to file a police report, talk to your District Station, requesting City Services such as graffiti removal or potholes to be filled, as well as event information such as the date of your next CAPS beat meeting or upcoming festivals.

You do not have to give your name when calling either number.

Interesting fact: 311 started in Baltimore, MD.

Maria Bappert, GRO Public Safety Officer

1200 readers see this space every month - and your ad can be here!

GROnews is delivered free within the GRO service area, and is available to residents of neighboring communities at the Rockwell El stop as well as several business locations.

Ad space is $25 for a business-card size; other ad sizes available as space permits. Camera-ready copy should be sent as jpg, tif, pdf, or doc file to newsletter@greaterrockwell.org

Copy must be received by the 10th of the month to appear in the next following newsletter. For more information, contact newsletter@greaterrrockwell.org

October Calendar

4 Sunday. DST ends, CST begins
5 Monday, 7:00 p.m. Horner Park Advisory Council. Horner Park Fieldhouse, Montrose and California
6 **Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. GRO Meeting**
12 Columbus/ Native American Day
14 Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Gross Park Advisory Council. Gross Park Fieldhouse, Lawrence & Washtenaw
19 Manor Garden Club, Luther Memorial Church , 7:30 p.m.
20 Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Beat 1911 Meeting, Kindred Hospital, Montrose & Rockwell
31 Saturday. Halloween

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ALLSTARCARPET57@YAHOO.COM

GRO MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION: *your membership is valid for 1 year from your application date*

Name(s): Home phone:

Address: Cell phone:

Email:

			Membership Categories:
	New Member		Individual - $20
	Renewal		Family - $30
			Senior (≥ 65) - $10
			Senior Family - $15
	I would be willing to participate on a GRO committee (please circle):		Sustaining - $50
	fundraising; special events; membership; newsletter; public safety; beautification; urban development		Business and/or Friends of GRO (living outside GRO area) - $20
			Extra $ for the Corner Gardens

I would like to see GRO address the following issue(s):